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Remarks

Claims 1 - 17 remain pending in the application. Claims 1 and 3 - 9 are amended.

Double Patenting

Claims 1 - 17 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. Terminal disclaimers are filed with this response. Therefore, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Specification

The Office Action rejects claims 4 - 11 under the assertion the specification fails to provide an adequate written description. Claims 4 - 9 are amended. Support for claims 10 and 11 can be found on pages 22 - 24 of the specification. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully request.

Claims Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action rejects claims 1 - 6 and 10 - 17 as anticipated by Lach et al. U.S. Patent 4,770,164. The Office Action asserts Lach teaches everything including a brake capable of holding the tensioning means in a tightened state about the chest. The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

In claim 1 and claim 2, the Applicant claims, *inter alia*, a controller programmed to operate the motor and brake to cause repeated cycles of tightening of the belt to a set threshold of tightness, momentarily hold the belt at this threshold of tightness, and release the belt. Lach fails to disclose, teach

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or suggest a controller programmed to momentarily hold the belt at this threshold of tightness as claimed by the Applicant. Momentarily holding the belt at a threshold of tightness prolongs periods of high intrathoracic pressure improving the effectiveness of CPR. This benefit is not contemplated by Lach. Thus, the circuit in Lach does not teach or suggest holding the belt momentarily.

In claim 3, the Applicant claims, *inter alia*, a controller programmed to momentarily hold the drive spool in a braked condition during periods of each cycle. Lach fails to disclose, teach or suggest a controller programmed to momentarily hold the drive spool in a braked condition during periods of each cycle. The circuit in Lach does not momentarily hold during periods of each cycle as claimed by the Applicant. Because Lach fails to fails to disclose, teach or suggest at least one claim limitation found in the Applicant's claimed invention, it does not anticipate claims 1 - 6 and 10 - 17. For at least these reasons, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

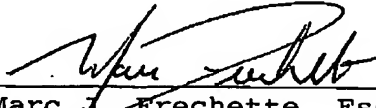
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Conclusion

This response has addressed all of the Examiner's grounds for rejection. The rejections based on prior art have been traversed. Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the claims is requested.

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By:



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